



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 06530.0276-00000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Marc O. SCHURR et al. )  
)  
Application No.: 09/957,451 ) Group Art Unit: 3731  
)  
Filed: September 21, 2001 ) Examiner: P. Roberts  
)  
For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR )  
FOLDING AND SECURING )  
TISSUE )

**Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**  
MAR 18 2004  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER ROOM

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO SUPPLEMENTAL  
ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In reply to the supplemental Election/Restriction requirement dated January 13, 2004, the response to which has been extended to March 15, 2004, by the one-month Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, please amend the application as provided below:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks follow the claim amendment section of this paper.